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HOUSE BILL 800

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Bengie Regensberg

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING ONE UNIT IN NEW MEXICO LAND
GRANT HISTORY AND NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY FOR GRADUATION;
RECONCILING MULTIPLE AMENDMENTS TO THE SAME SECTION OF LAW IN
LAWS 2001.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-2-8.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,
Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended by Laws 2001, Chapter 257,
Section 1 and by Laws 2001, Chapter 276, Section 1) is amended
to read:

"22-2-8.4. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS. --

A. At the end of the eighth grade or during the
ninth grade, each student shall prepare an individual program
of study for grades nine through twelve. The program of study
shall be signed by a student's parent or guardian.

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 B. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade
2 in the [~~1986-87~~] 2004-2005 school year, successful completion
3 of a minimum of twenty-three units shall be required for
4 graduation. These units shall be as follows:

5 (1) four units in English, with major emphasis
6 on grammar and literature;

7 (2) three units in mathematics;

8 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
9 have a laboratory component;

10 (4) three units in social science, which shall
11 include United States history and geography, world history and
12 geography, and government and economics;

13 (5) one unit in physical [~~fitness~~] education;

14 (6) one unit in communication skills, with
15 major emphasis on writing and speaking, which may include a
16 language other than English; [~~and~~]

17 (7) one unit in New Mexico land grant history
18 and Native American history; and

19 [~~(7) nine~~] eight elective units. Only the
20 following elective units shall be counted toward meeting the
21 requirements for graduation: fine arts, i.e., music, band,
22 chorus and art; practical arts; physical education; languages
23 other than English; speech; drama; vocational education;
24 mathematics; science; English; [~~R.O.T.C.~~] reserve officers'
25 training corps; social science; computer science; health

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1 education; American sign language; and other electives approved
2 by the state board.

3 C. With the approval of the local school board,
4 participation in a marching band, on an athletic team or in an
5 athletic sport during the school day may count toward
6 fulfillment of the physical education required unit.

7 [~~C.~~] D. Final examinations shall be administered to
8 all students in all classes offered for credit.

9 [~~D.~~] E. No student shall receive a high school
10 diploma who has not passed a state graduation examination in
11 the subject areas of reading, English, math, writing, science
12 and social science. [~~Beginning with the 1996-97 school year~~]
13 The state graduation examinations on social science shall
14 include a section on the constitution of the United States and
15 the constitution of New Mexico. If a student exits from the
16 school system at the end of grade twelve without having passed
17 a state graduation examination, he shall receive an appropriate
18 state certificate indicating the number of credits earned and
19 the grade completed. If within five years after a student
20 exits from the school system he takes and passes the state
21 graduation examination, he may receive a high school diploma.

22 E. The state board may establish a policy to
23 provide for administrative interpretations to clarify
24 curricular and testing provisions of the Public School Code."